

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Bergeron *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/089,177

(U.S. National Phase of PCT/CA00/01150)

§ 371 Date: *To Be Determined*

(Int'l Filing Date: September 28, 2000)

For: **Highly Conserved Genes and Their Use to Generate Species-Specific, Genus-Specific, Family-Specific, Group-Specific and Universal Nucleic Acid Probes and Amplification Primers to Rapidly Detect and Identify Algal, Archaeal, Bacterial, Fungal and Parasitital Microorganisms from Clinical Specimens for Diagnosis**

Confirmation No. 9698

Art Unit: *To Be Assigned*

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

Atty. Docket: 1619.0090000/SRL/PAJ

**Second Preliminary Amendment
and Submission of Substitute Sequence Listing**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. § 371, dated August 14, 2002, in the above identified matter, and in advance of prosecution, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraph/section at page 1, before the "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION:"